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Copy 5 of 11

15 May 1968

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## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Critique for OXCART Mission Number BX6858

1. Mission critique was conducted in the OSA Control Center at 1500 hours, 10 May 1968.

2. Mission Data:

- a. Mission Number: BX6858  
b. Date Flown: 6 May 1968  
c. Area of Operation: North Korea  
d. Mission Success: Successful  
e. Pilot's Name: [REDACTED]  
f. Aircraft Number: 127  
g. Primary or Spare Flown: Primary  
h. Takeoff Time - Planned: 0100Z  
Actual: 0100Z  
i. Landing Time - Planned: 0428Z  
Actual: 0430Z  
j. Time Enroute - Planned: 3+28  
Actual: 3+30  
k. Departure Base: Kadena AB  
l. Landing Base: Kadena AB  
m. Equipment:

(1) Primary: TYPE I, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

(2) Spare: Same as primary.

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3. Operations:

a. Mission Generation & Operational Support: Satisfactory

b. Plans: Route (Actual vs. Planned): Satisfactory

- (1) Total INS Nav Time: 4+06 Hours
- (2) INS Terminal Error: 9.7 Nautical Miles
- (3) INS Spec. Error: 8.9 Nautical Miles

c. Tactics (Planned vs. Actual): As briefed.

4. Weather:

a. Forecast vs. Actual: Worse than briefed.

b. Observed Cloud Condition:

(1) Pilot reported CAT I conditions on both passes with heavy haze over entire area.

(2) Photography: [ ] reported 20% cloud on first pass and 30% on second pass. Overall degradation was 50% due to clouds and haze.

c. Comments: Weather was worse than briefed due to haze condition which may have been intensified by thin cirrus clouds.

5. Materiel:

a. Aircraft General: Satisfactory

(1) Comments: Left windshield glazed inflight. Windshield has been replaced. [ ]

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[Redacted]

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b. Aircraft Systems: Satisfactory

(1) Comments: INS had excessive terminal error. System has been replaced.

(2) Resolution: Poor on photography effected by atmospherics. Estimated 18 to 20 inch resolution on non-effected photos.

(3) Camera Operation: Normal. SC & DM indicated camera in caged position during second pass over denied. Indication was false and wiring between camera and SC & DM recorder is being investigated to determine signal source.

6. Intelligence:

a. Target Coverage:

- (1) 66 of 77 programmed targets covered.
- (2) 3 SSM targets covered.
- (3) 68 of 125 COMIREX targets covered.
- (4) 15 SAM sites, 3 occupied, 1 unoccupied, 11 ID only.
- (5) 30 bonus targets.
- (6) Comments: The mission obtained poor to fair quality photography of the southern two-fifths of North Korea. Scattered clouds and haze affected approximately 50% of the photography.

[Redacted]

c. Significant Findings: None

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## e. Take Movement:

## (1) Photography: Satisfactory

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(3) Comments: The original negative was delayed at Andrews AFB in the movement to [redacted] due to maintenance [redacted] The film was rescheduled on a commercial flight and delivered to [redacted] 8 May 1968 at 2250Z.

7. Communications:

## a. Message Traffic: Satisfactory

b. [redacted]

## c. UHF/HF Commo: Satisfactory

8. Significant Actions Taken:

Confidence flight accomplished on aircraft 127, 15 May 1968, to verify INS, camera caging [redacted] systems operation. All systems operated normally except SC&DM tape - continued to reflect a false camera caged condition. Camera and SC&DM systems are being investigated to determine signal source.

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9. Outstanding Actions Required:

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Chief, OXCART Division, OSA

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OXC/O/OSA

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